

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Thursday, October 18, 2012

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

6:00 p.m. - Workshop

7:00 p.m. – Regular School Committee Meeting

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) William O’Connell. To call the School Committee workshop to order at 6:12 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chairman

Liana Fenton, Vice-Chairman

Kellie DiPalma

William O’Connell

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

The School Committee discussed proposed Charter changes.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from the workshop at 6:54 p.m. Unanimous vote.

The Regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. Administrative staff members present were Michelle Fonseca, Gail Abromitis, Michael Mancieri, Linda Beaupre, and Stephen Ponte.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

“Educator Evaluation”

Mrs. Donna Chelf, District Evaluation ISP and Student Services Manager, and Michelle Fonseca, Aquidneck School Principal, discussed the elementary Educator Evaluation. Middletown is at the beginning stages of full implementation of the Rhode Island Evaluation. Each teacher will have a beginning, middle and end-of-year conference which includes three observations. Professional foundations, goals and student learning objectives are developed by each teacher and a final effectiveness rating will be given to each teacher based on meeting goals. Primary evaluators are Principals, Assistant Principals, District Evaluation ISP, and Special Education liaison.

A District Steering Committee, District Evaluation Committee, and

Appeals Committee have been developed. If a teacher receives a rating they do not agree with, there is an appeals process.

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MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. To move NECAP test scores up on the agenda. Unanimous vote.

•Science NECAP Test Scores – Mr. Michael Mancieri presented the Middle School Science NECAP Test Scores. The Science NECAP is administered in grades four and eight. It is done at the end of the year and results are received in September. In grade 4, the number of students proficient increased from 38 to 44%. In grade eight, there was consistent growth, but last year there was a drop. There was an increase in proficiency of students with IEP's in grade 4. There was a decrease in the percentage of 1's in grade 8 from 2008-2012. In grade 8, 7% of students were within 1 point of proficiency. In grade 4, 7% of students were within 1 point of proficiency. Moving forward, the alignment of kits/materials/curriculum is on-going and the hiring of Science Head Content Teachers to facilitate the alignment and identify challenges will be beneficial.

Last year was the first year we had a full cohort of students who took courses in physics, chemistry and biology sequence. Earth science was added to freshman physical science in 2011-2012. The

schedule includes common collaboration time for science teachers. Moving forward, we need to have alignment within and across all schools, K-12. This includes appropriate lab and text materials. Time needs to be scheduled for science teacher collaboration and science instruction at every grade, K-12.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:

- Protocol for managing food allergies from the Barrington Public Schools. This policy could possibly be adopted by Middletown. Miss DiPalma said the driving force behind this is that a student with a severe allergy might not know they are being served something they are allergic to. Mr. Ponte said they are concerned with students that have multiple allergies. Mrs. Spengler said that parents need to take responsibility.**
- Forest Avenue Community Playground – The PTG send a request to the Town Council to help fund the replacement of a piece of playground equipment that was not safe. The Town Council deferred**

the request to the December meeting. Mr. Collins said the main apparatus is still there, but the slide has been removed and access has been blocked off.

 

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- List of questions the Town Administrator requested the School Committee submit to be used during the interview process for the School Committee Member filling the vacancy.

- Homecoming Dance – The four classes met as a group to discuss items of concern. There is talk about a possible parent meeting to discuss the issue. Administration needs to work with the Student Council and class officers to highlight all the good that the students do. Mrs. Fenton said it is a valuable lesson how to protest. Parent Michelle Luther spoke about her concern for student safety and release from the dance.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Christopher Semonelli, Town Council Member, requesting that the School Committee discuss the topic of CCRI Early College Program Development and appoint a representative.

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the School

Committee receive the communication. Unanimous vote.

The students would receive an Associate Degree after five years of high school and one year of college. There is a mentor group in Newport. The goal is to create a mentor program for Middletown. Mrs. Spengler asked who would pay for students to take classes at CCRI. Miss DiPalma would be interested in being appointed as a representative of this group. Mrs. Spengler said we have to be sure we are meeting the BEP and not incurring any cost.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

- Quarterly Financial Report**

- Approval of Minutes of September 20, 2012 School Committee Meeting**

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated June 30, 2012, in the amount of \$87.00**

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated June 30, 2012, in the amount of \$2,443.51**

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 11, 2012, in the amount of \$56,264.31**

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 12, 2012, in the**

amount of \$15,037.00

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 13, 2012, in the amount of \$3,800.00

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 14, 2012, in the amount of \$640.00

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 14, 2012, in the amount of \$63,582.63

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 25, 2012, in the amount of \$5,381.29

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated September 25, 2012, in the amount of \$200.00

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 1, 2012, in the amount of \$65,251.71

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 2, 2012, in the amount of \$277,458.39

•Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 3, 2012, in the amount of \$142,584.76

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SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENT AS OF OCTOBER 22, 2012

Joseph Weiss Bus Monitor

Amanda Stanford English Language Arts (Middle School) (One Year Only)

APPOINTMENTS AS OF OCTOBER 19, 2012

Kristen Ramsey .5 Art Teacher, Elementary

Dena Silvia .5 Kindergarten Teacher, Job Share (One Year Only)

Elizabeth Fenster Grade Four Teacher

Dr. Martha Ullman School Physician

P. Hakan Durudogan, D.D.S. School Dentist

Michael Goodreau .8 Spanish Teacher, Middletown High School (One Year Only)

Susan Jones 3-Hour Teacher Assistant

Anna Burill 4-Hour Teacher Assistant

Susan Plunkett 4-Hour Teacher Assistant

Anne Coogan Head Content Teacher – ELA K-4

Jennifer Pesare Head Content Teacher – Social Studies K-4

Laura Pasyanos Head Content Teacher – Science K-4

Kristen Hughes Head Content Teacher – Math K-4

Carol Lopes Head Content Teacher – Social Studies 5-8

Jackie Zahm Head Content Teacher – Science 5-8

Lisa Wood Head Content Teacher – Math 5-8

Christopher Richards Head Content Teacher – ELA 9-12

Andrew Leys Head Content Teacher – Social Studies 9-12

Gus Steppen Head Content Teacher – Math 9-12

TRANSFER AS OF OCTOBER 9, 2012

**Rurainy Sirois 4-Hour Teacher Assistant, Aquidneck School, to
4-Hour Teacher Assistant, MHS**

RESIGNATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2012

**Edwidge Victor Spanish Teacher, Middletown High School (One Year
Only)**

RESIGNATION AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2012

**Kenneth Bryer Custodian, Facilities Management Department
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ADVISOR APPOINTMENTS AS OF OCTOBER 19, 2012

**Jill Armstrong Co-Advisor, J.H.G. Astronomy Club (J.H. Gaudet
School)**

Jennifer Vaillancourt All-State Choral Director (High School)

Philip Statser All-State Band Director (High School)

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Jennifer Vaillancourt Choral Director (High School)
Lisa Ferreira Sr. Class Co-Advisor (High School)
Maria Dowler Sr. Class Co-Advisor (High School)
MaryBeth Murphy Jr. Class Co-Advisor (High School)
Michele Smith Jr. Class Co-Advisor (High School)
Amy Kalif Sophomore Class Co-Advisor (High School)
Rachelle Myllymaki Sophomore Class Co-Advisor (High School)
Karen Massaro Freshman Class Advisor (High School)
Paige Kirwin-Clair Community Service Co-Advisor (High School)
Carmela Geer Community Service Co-Advisor (High School)
Kevin Zahm Fall/Spring Dramatics Director (High School)
Stephen Fagan Mathematics League Advisor (High School)
David Fontaine Mock Trial Advisor (High School)
John Cunic Model Legislature Director (High School)
Lisa Clark Newspaper Advisor (High School)
Patrick Aylward Student Activities Coordinator (High School)
Anita DeLima Student Council Advisor (High School)
Christopher Richards Tempo Director (High School)
David Fontaine Virtual High School Advisor (High School)
Maria Dowler Yearbook Advisor (High School)

WINTER COACHING APPOINTMENTS AS OF NOVEMBER 26, 2012

Charles Russ Boys' 6/7/8th Grade Basketball
Carlton Brietzke Assistant Varsity Wrestling

Keith Holubesco Girls' 6/7/8th Grade Basketball

Theresa DiGiovanni Assistant Swim

Shannon Farrell Varsity Gymnastics

Jay Punsky Varsity Hockey

David Pritchard Girls' Assistant Varsity Basketball

Rebecca Duggan Varsity Swim

Michael Yates Girls' Varsity Basketball

Kevin Lendrum Boys' Varsity Basketball

ACTION ITEMS

SNOW REMOVAL BID AWARD

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee award the Snow Removal Bid to East Coast Construction. Unanimous vote.

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HOME SCHOOLING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Home Schooling 12-13-06 and 12-13-07. Unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- Charter Changes – Discussed in the workshop.**
- Alumni Association – The third meeting will be held on October 25th at 6:00 p.m. at MHS. At the Homecoming Football Game, signatures were collected and class lists were built.**
- Reardon Drive – A meeting is scheduled for October 25th with the Town Administrator, Police Chief, and Mr. Collins. Today on Reardon Drive, there were 6-8 cars parked on the shoulder of the road and about 25-30 students walking through the neighborhood. Boulders have been put in place and signage is up. Residents say there is much improvement.**

NEW BUSINESS

- RIASC “I Pledge” Campaign – This will be sent to the Town Council for approval and submitted at the next School Committee Meeting.**
- STEM – Mrs. Fenton discussed STREAM (Science, Technology, Robotics, Engineering, Arts, and Math). There are businesses that will raise funds and develop business partnerships. This could be a budget funding source and career pathway. Mrs. Fenton suggested that Mrs. Kraeger send out an email to invite staff to be a part of the STREAM Council. The meeting would take place on the teachers own time.**
- November School Committee Meetings – Applications to fill the**

vacancy on the School Committee close on October 25th and interviews will be held on October 29th. The new member will be appointed the day before the General Election. There is currently a meeting scheduled for November 15th, but the new member might not be sworn in at that time. The November School Committee Meeting will be moved to November 29th at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) William O'Connell. To extend the meeting past 9:00 p.m. Unanimous vote.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

•CUCCIRULUM – Work is continuing on the Visual Arts curriculum on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The NWEA Fall Testing Assessments are wrapping up. The NECAP Assessments are also wrapping up. Online writing assessments for grades 8-11 are taking place.

•FINANCIAL – Ms. Pellerin reported that the first quarterly report of 2013 was approved earlier at the meeting. Revenues are posted 16% and expenditures at 11.3%. Field audit work begins on Monday. The Annual Audit, Single Audit, and UCOA Audit will take place in one week.

•FACILITIES – Mr. Collins reported that the buildings are in good shape. Transportation to and from school is going extremely well.

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Miss DiPalma attended a Nutrition & Wellness Committee Meeting. The major focus was the Barrington Policy referred to earlier. National regulations are getting tighter, but Middletown is in god shape.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 9:10 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk